Nine more Sheriff's Office employees laid off

LAKE COUNTY - On Tuesday, Aug. 30, the Lake County Sheriff's Office was forced to lay off an additional nine full-time employees due to its budget being cut an additional \$302,000 for the remainder of 2011. Additionally, the three officers who departed service from the Corrections Division in recent weeks will not be replaced. As well, nine parttime employees were also laid off from service in an attempt to meet the demands of this most recent budget cut

These cuts in staffing were made in the road patrol, corrections, court services and clerical divisions. Yesterday's layoffs bring the total number of full-time employees laid off or not replaced to 50 people since 2009.

Not including the Central Communications Division, the number of full-time employees at the Lake County Sheriff's Office, which stood at 189 employees in 2009, now has been reduced to 139 full-time employees. In short, 26 percent of its staff has been laid off or not replaced in the past two years.

In addition to these fulltime employees, 13 part-time employees have been laid off due to reductions in the funding of the Sheriff's Office budget by the Lake County Board of Commissioners.

This most recent budget cut will bring to \$2.6 million the total monies eliminated from the Sheriff's Office budget since 2009. In short, it is now operating at the budget level it was receiving in 2003.

Tribune 9-2-2011